

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination FormSee instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

For NPS use only

received

date entered

1. Name

historic Walnut Creek Bridge

and/or common Walnut Creek Bridge

2. Location

street & number one mile south of Wellsville n/a not for publication

city, town Wellsville ☒ vicinity of

state Kansas code 20 county Franklin code 59

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	n/a	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Franklin County

street & number Franklin County Courthouse

city, town Ottawa vicinity of state Kansas

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Register of Deeds

street & number Franklin County Courthouse

city, town Ottawa state Kansas

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Survey of Historic Bridges	
title Kansas Dept. of Transportation	has this property been determined eligible? <input type="checkbox"/> yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no
date 1980-83	<input type="checkbox"/> federal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> state <input type="checkbox"/> county <input type="checkbox"/> local

depository for survey records Kansas State Historical Society

city, town Topeka state Kansas

7. Description

Condition

☐ excellent
☒ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☒ unaltered
☐ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Walnut Creek bridge is 37 feet long and 24.5 feet wide curb to curb.
The roadway deck lies 11 feet above the water level.

The bridge consists of a concrete arch reinforced by steel ribs, which spring from and are disposed between reinforced concrete abutments. The concrete guard rails are incised with rectangles.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates [1920]

Builder/Architect

[Topeka Bridge and Iron Co.]

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Walnut Creek bridge retains its integrity of location, design, setting, materials, feeling and association. It embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type and method of construction no longer being used and may yield information important to the history of engineering.

Although research has not revealed a construction date or maker, the bridge closely follows the designs and style widely built by Topeka Bridge and Iron.

Topeka Bridge and Iron was responsible for the construction of a great number of reinforced concrete bridges in Kansas. They employed both the designs developed by Daniel Luten of the National Bridge Company and were general agents for Luten's designs, as well as designs developed by Lloyd B. Smith of Topeka.

The company discontinued the fabrication of metal bridges in 1914, and progressively shifted their operation to concrete structures.

THIS STATEMENT REFLECTS CURRENT KNOWLEDGE AND IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Please see attached.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property Less than one acre

Quadrangle name Wellsville, Kansas

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References

A

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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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D

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E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

That property on and over which the bridge is built including bridge structures, abutments and piers SE $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$, S4-T16S-R21E.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state n/a	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Larry Jochims, Research Historian and Michael Snell

organization Kansas State Historical Society

date 2/20/85

street & number 120 W. Tenth

telephone (913) 296-2973

city or town Topeka

state Kansas

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

☐ national ☒ state ☐ local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title Executive Director, Kansas State Historical Society date 3/4/85

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

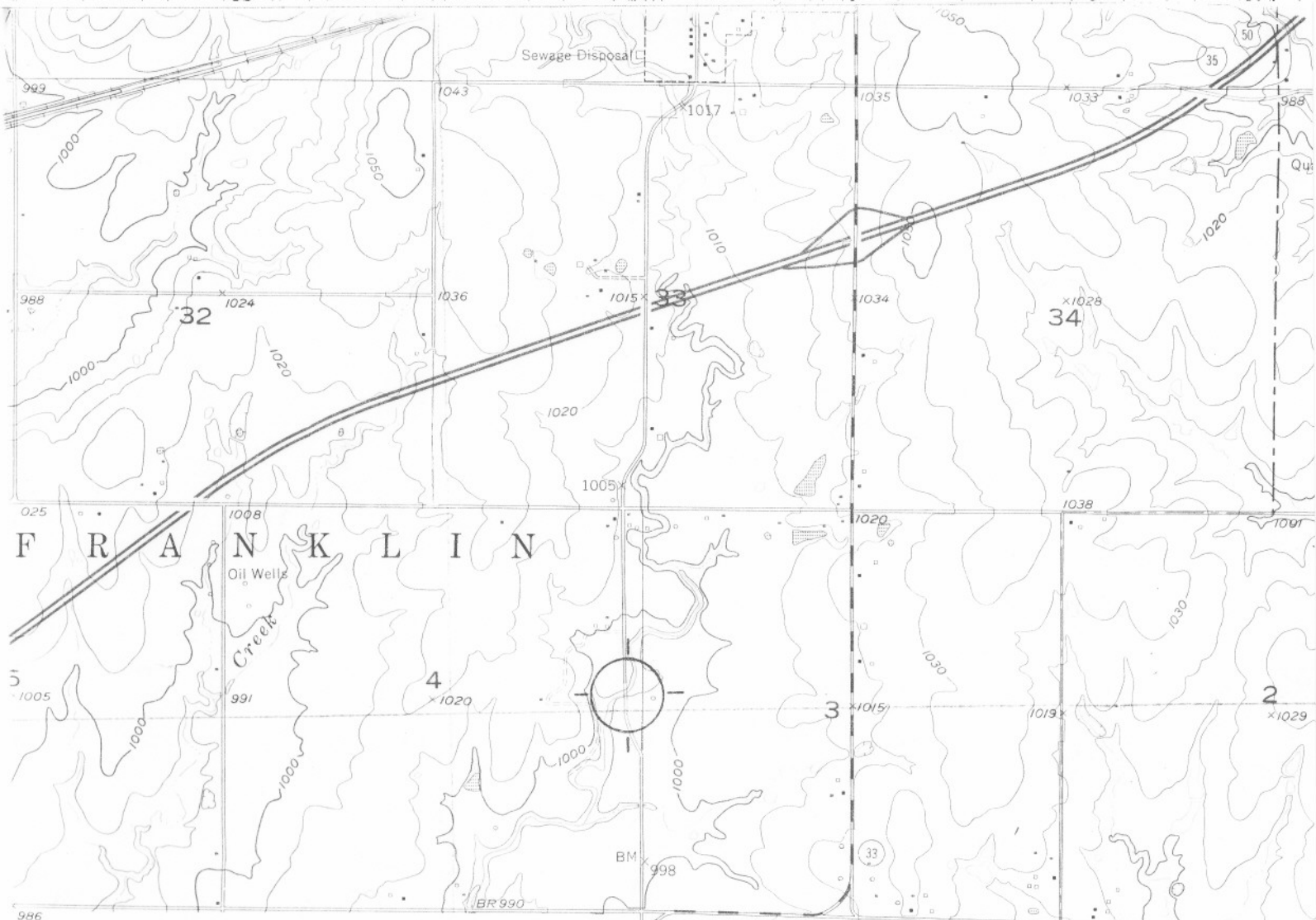
date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

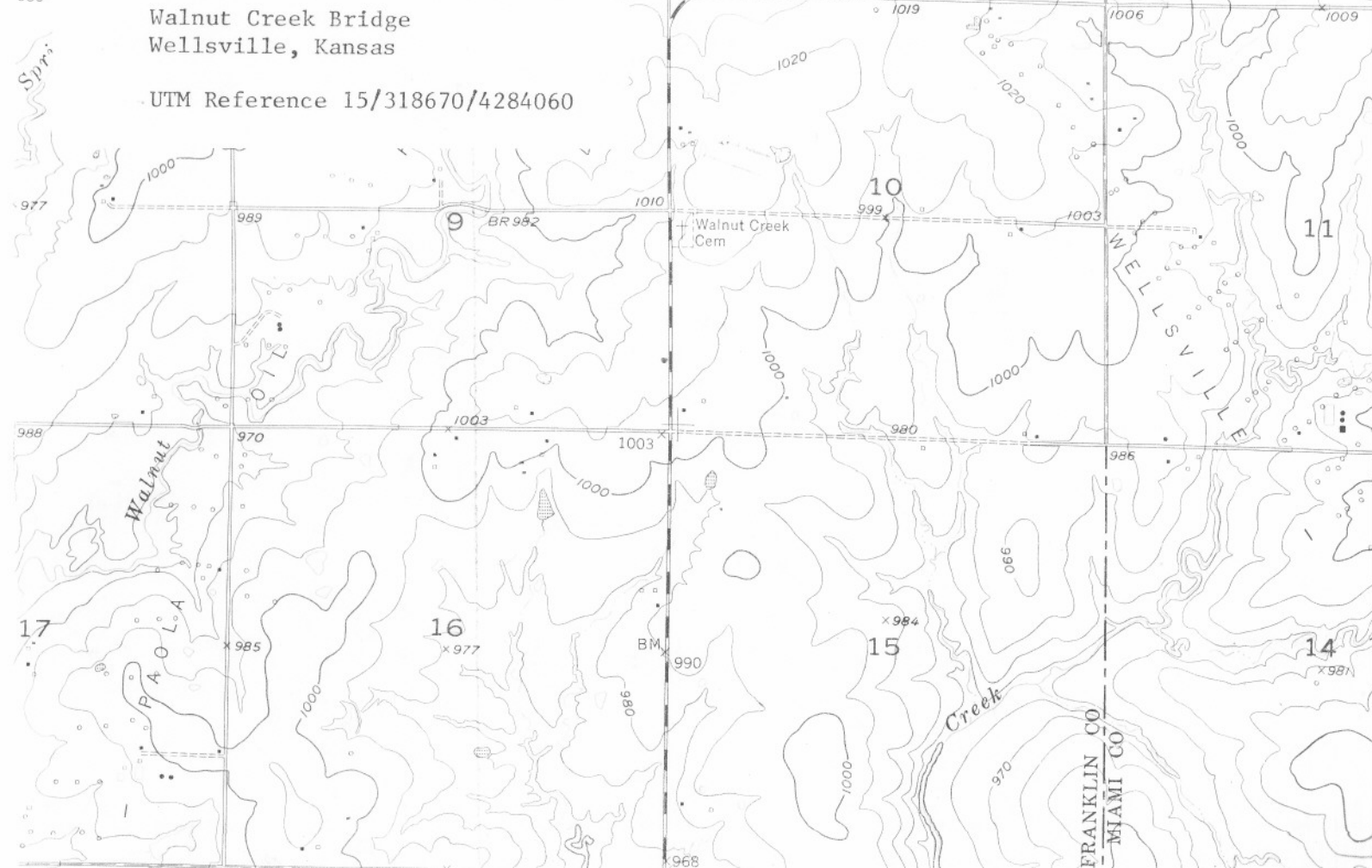
date

Chief of Registration



Walnut Creek Bridge
Wellsville, Kansas

UTM Reference 15/318670/4284060



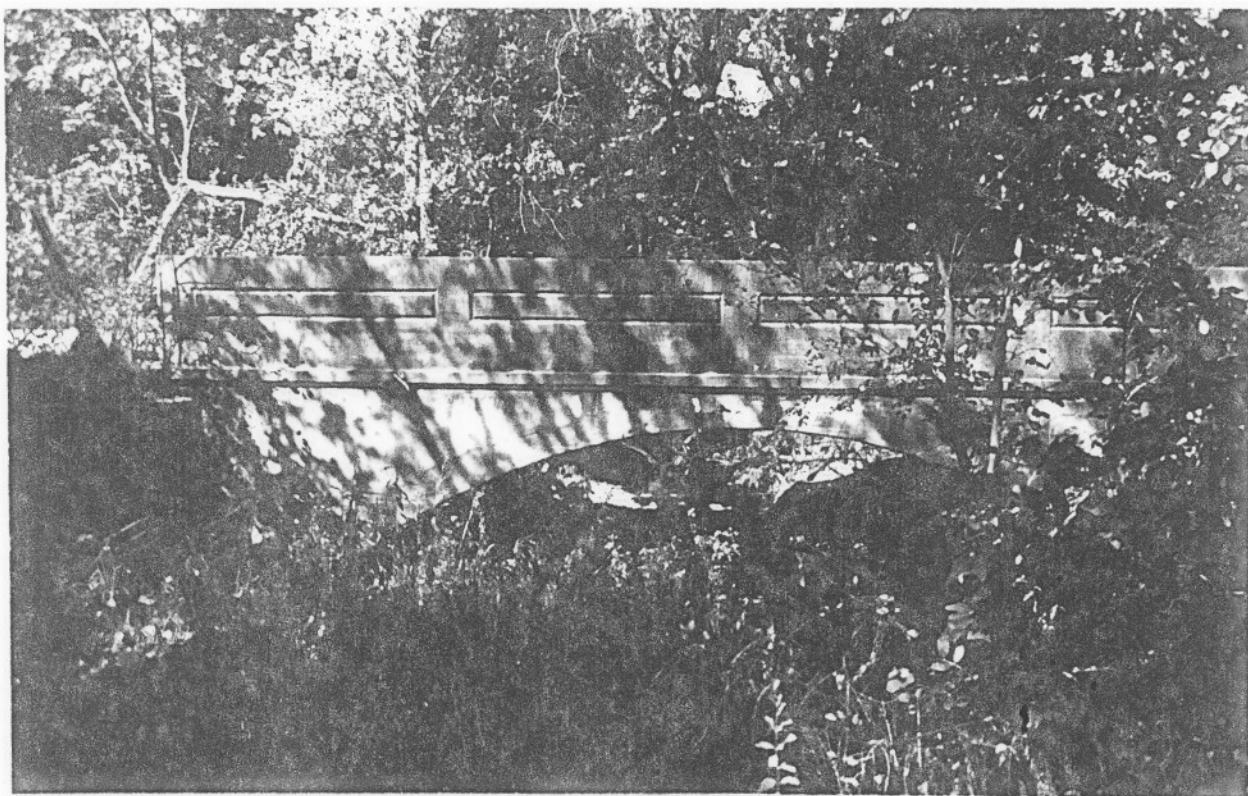
The following photographs were taken 1 mile South of Wellsville, Kansas by Larry Jochims and Michael Snell on September 9, 1984. Photograph negatives are located at the Kansas State Historical Society, Topeka, Kansas.



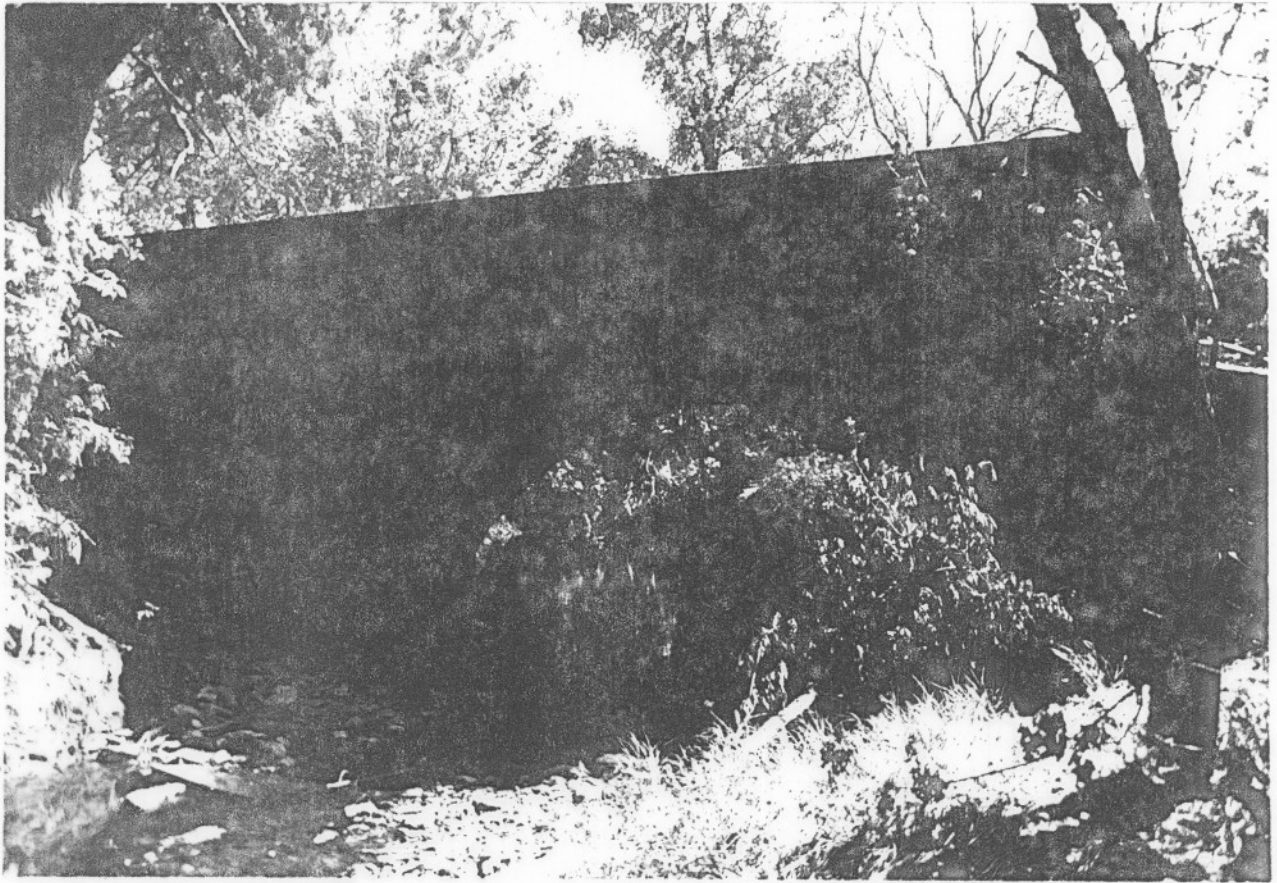
Walnut Creek Bridge. East Side Looking North West.



Walnut Creek Bridge. South Approach Looking North.



Walnut Creek Bridge.
East Side Looking West.



Walnut Creek Bridge.
West Side Looking Northeast.



Walnut Creek Bridge.
West Side Looking South East.

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Continuation sheet

Item number 9

Page 1

BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Walt Markley, "Lloyd B. Smith," Builders of Topeka, Topeka: Capper Printing
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Daniel Luten, 1908.